

stamens delayed in anthesis being still included within the lemma. It is possible that the stamens in such cases might remain permanently enclosed. Most grasses are characterized by the early extrusion of the anthers, but the condition in which the stigmas are the first to be developed, known as *proterogyny*, is stated by Hackel¹ to occur strongly in *Anthoxanthum*, *Pennisetum*, and *Spartina*. *Spartina cynosuroides* is rare in New England, the previously known stations (excluding Connecticut) being at Brewster and Dennis in Barnstable County, Wareham in Plymouth County, and Salisbury in Essex County, Massachusetts.—H. K. SVENSON, Cambridge, Mass.

A NEW VARIETY OF *BIDENS EATONI*.—

BIDENS EATONI Fernald var. ***illicita***, var. nov. Larger heads campanulate, 30–32-flowered; outer achenes 6–7 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, 2-awned, inner achenes 6.8–7.5 mm. long, 1.5–1.8 mm. wide, 2–3-awned, the marginal hairs all antrorse except rarely one or two at extreme base; awns 2.8–3.7 mm. long, barbed both ways, upward at base, downward or both ways in middle, upward or downward at apex.—MASSACHUSETTS: Tidal shore of Merrimac River, Amesbury, 22 Sept., 1928, *Blake* 10784A (TYPE in U. S. National Herbarium, no. 1,365,546).

Of this form only a single plant was found, so robust that it provided material for about ten sheets. Its characters, in connection with its occurrence in company with typical *Bidens eatoni* Fernald with downwardly barbed awns and var. *fallax* Fernald with upwardly barbed awns, might lead to the suspicion that it represented a hybrid between them. The only other form of *Bidens eatoni* with awns barbed in both directions, var. *mutabilis* Fassett² from the Kennebec River, Maine, is, however, found in a region where no other form of the species except one with downwardly barbed awns is known to occur. Var. *mutabilis*, of which I have examined the type material in the Gray Herbarium, differs from var. *illicita* in its very short awns (only 0.5–2 mm. long) and in the fact that the angles of the achene are barbed both retrorsely and antrorsely.—S. F. BLAKE, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.

¹ Hackel, *The True Grasses*, transl. Scribn. & Southw. 18 (1890).

² RHODORA 27: 143. 1925.